GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:257
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016
Use of Fertilizers
Lokhande Shri Sadashiv Kisan;Udasi Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any research to find out the extent to which the use of excessive chemical fertilizers is destroying land fertility and causing many other problems including diseases and if so, the details of the findings thereof;

(b) the follow-up action taken by the Government on the said findings in the report;

(c) the proportion of the Indian and foreign made chemical fertilizers being used in the country during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(d) whether the Government has conducted any awareness campaign to train the farmers on the use of traditional harmless fertilizers and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *257 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2016 REGARDING USE OF FERTILIZERS ASKED BY SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE AND SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI.

(a) & (b): There is no report of deteriorating soil health/fertility from judicious use of chemical fertilizers including DAP and imported chemical fertilizers in our country. However, studies carried out by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) show that indiscriminate and imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over years may result into multi-nutrient deficiencies and deteriorating of soil health.

The ICAR through Indian Institute of Soil Science and AICRPs on Soil Test Crop Response (STCR), Micro and Secondary Nutrients and Pollutant Elements (MSNP) and Plants, Long Term Fertilizer Experiments (LTFE) and Network Project on Soil Biodiversity-Bio-fertilizers are addressing researchable issues related to soil fertility and fertilizer use in the country.
(c): The proportion of indigenous and imported subsidised chemical fertilizers used in the country during each of the last three years and current year is given in the Annexure.

(d): Yes, Madam. Government is implementing Soil Health Management under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Soil Health Management (SHM) is one of the components under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). SHM aims at promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures and bio-fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity; upgradation of skill and knowledge of soil testing laboratory staff, extension staff and farmers through training and demonstrations.

The Government has introduced "Soil Health Card" Scheme from February 2015 to provide Soil Health Cards to all farmers in the country. Soil Health Card will provide information to farmers on soil nutrient status of their soil and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrient to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. Soil Health card will be issued every 2 years for all land holdings in the country. In this regard awareness programme are carried out through print and visual media.

The ICAR imparts training, organises Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) to educate farmers on soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (FYM, compost, bio-fertilizers etc.) of plant nutrients to reduce use of chemical fertilizers vis-Ã -vis expenditure on costly chemical fertilizers.

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